

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-SECOND SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1997

495A0701

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1005

Introduced by: Representatives Hunt, Belatti, and Pederson (Gordon) and Senators Lawler and Aker

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Urging the Board of Regents to make hospice care and pain
2 management part of the core curriculum of the University of South Dakota Medical School
3 and requesting the Department of Health to educate the public about the availability of
4 hospice care and pain management for terminally ill persons.

5 WHEREAS, modern pain management is a relatively new and rapidly growing specialty; and

6 WHEREAS, the advances in understanding of the mechanisms of pain transmission have
7 been accompanied by the development of new medications and techniques to modulate pain
8 transmission and pain perception; and

9 WHEREAS, management of nearly all painful conditions can now be achieved, including pain
10 due to cancer; and

11 WHEREAS, hospice care given in the last days or months of the life of a terminally ill person
12 can, using knowledge of medications and techniques to control pain, provide palliative and
13 supportive care to the person and the person's family in a way that effectively allows death to
14 occur in a dignified and pain-free manner:

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-

1 second Legislative Session, the Senate concurring therein, that the Board of Regents be urged
2 to make hospice care and pain management a part of the core curriculum of the University of
3 South Dakota Medical School at Vermillion and that the South Dakota Department of Health
4 be requested to educate the general public about the availability of hospice care and pain
5 management to ease the last days of loved ones.